

Dear Chairman Krasnoff:

We ask that you circulate the letter below to the LIU Trustees.

To the LIU Board of Trustees:

Sept. 4, 2016.

On behalf of faculty across the institution, the LIU University Faculty Senate (UFS), strenuously objects to the hostile and destructive action taken against all professors at the Brooklyn campus. Under the guise of serving students, President Kim Cline and her administration have locked-out the highly qualified and dedicated Brooklyn faculty, both full- and part-time.

The UFS further protests specific administrative actions taken over the last several months that contravene past practice and the idea of shared governance. These include: the cancellation of courses weeks earlier than usual without consulting or informing those most knowledgeable about the courses; the posting of outdated and unauthorized syllabi on Blackboard, presumably for replacement workers to use; the recruitment of unvetted workers to teach the Fall courses on the Brooklyn campus; the re-assignment of other LIU personnel to provide coverage in these classes.

All of this clearly demonstrates the administration's disdain for the expertise and professionalism of LIU's faculty and the university's status as a serious institution of higher education. It is patently not in the interest of students to have last-minute and less-qualified personnel attempt to teach courses designed by our specialist faculty to fulfill the degree requirements of programs offered by the university.

Finally, since President Cline has blocked access to the university and its website for half the membership of the UFS, this governance body is rendered unable to function and therefore has been effectively suspended. We question the sincerity of the administration when they so lightly discontinue contact with a body set up expressly to establish communication with them and the Board of Trustees. The UFS was re-established only a few years ago after being summarily abolished by the previous LIU administration. The failure of university governance once again, with its attendant concerns for re-accreditation by the Middle States Association, appears imminent.

The LIU University Faculty Senate

Dr. Hildi Hendrickson, President